

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are in the application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. A substitute Declaration was faxed to the PTO on December 28, 2004. A copy of the Declaration is attached to this Amendment, responsive to the objection to the Amendment in the previous Office Action.

Claim 8 has been amended in view of paragraph 3 of the 2/8/05 Office Action.

Turning to the rejections at paragraph 4 of the 2/8/05 Office Action, the term "workpiece" in the claims is defined at 0002 as "silicon or gallium arsenide wafers, flat panel displays, mask reticles, rigid disk media, thin film heads, or other substrates on which electronic, optical, or micro-mechanical components have or can be formed." McMillan, U.S. Patent No. 3,050,073, describes a dishwasher for washing dishes. Column 4, lines 6-9. The McMillan apparatus is entirely unrelated to processing workpieces as claimed.

Claim 1 includes the step of "pivoting the process chamber to remove process liquid from the process chamber." McMillan does not suggest this pivoting step. Initially, there is no mention whatsoever in McMillan of a pivoting step. A pivoting step is entirely inconsistent with McMillan. There is also no discussion in McMillan as to how the cleansing fluid is removed from the container 40. In claim 1, the process liquid is removed by pivoting the process chamber. In McMillan, the container 40 is apparently emptied by lifting and pouring out the cleansing fluid, by hand.

Lines 1-3 of page 4 of the 2/8/05 Office Action cite to McMillan, column 3, lines 65-68, as suggesting pivoting the chamber to remove the process liquid. However, column 3, lines 65-68 of McMillan refers only to pouring the cleaning fluid out of the

container (at column 3, line 67). There is no description anywhere in McMillan of pivoting the chamber. With respect to claims 3 and 12, as discussed at page 4 of the 2/8/05 Office Action, McMillan describes a coil spring 46 attached at each corner of the basket 10, to provide resilient support for the basket. Column 3, lines 7-11. The intended purpose for operation of the springs 46 is not disclosed, as they are not further discussed within McMillan.

Claims 3 and 12 both describe rotating the workpiece support. Rotating means sustained 360° + movement. See 0027 (page 7, line 22 of the application). Even if McMillan discloses a certain degree of rotation about a central axis of the workpiece holder (2/8/05 Office Action, page 4), clearly there is no rotation, as claimed, in McMillan.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore requested.

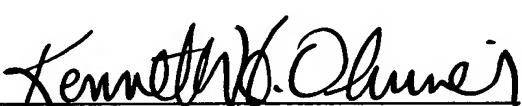
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